

REMARKS

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 15 2007

This Amendment accompanies the Request for Continued Examination, both of which are in response to the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences dated December 15, 2006

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1- 19 are pending in the Application. Claims 7 and 9-18 have been withdrawn from consideration based upon an election of species. Claims 20-23 have been added.

Support for Claims 1-6, 8 and 19 is found on pages 1, line 23 to page 5, line 21, and in figures 1 and 2. Specifically, support for the amended claims and the new claims is found in the specification on page 3, lines 37-38. No new matter has been added.

Newly amended claims 1 and 19 are directed to an elevator system comprising a hoistway with an elevator car and counterweight located in the hoistway, and a drive motor located between the elevator car and a sidewall of the hoistway. The drive motor is drivingly coupling and suspending the elevator car and counterweight via at least one flat rope *wherein the flat rope is made from a reinforceable high traction material*. As amended, claims 1 and 19 now incorporate the feature of the flat rope as italicized immediately above.

Newly added claims 20-21 recite the feature whereby the flat rope is reinforced with steel or fiber, respectively. Consideration of the newly added claims 20-21 is respectfully requested.

Newly added claims 22-23 recite the feature whereby the high traction material is urethane or rubber, respectively. Consideration of the newly added claims 22-23 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aulanko et al. (EP 0710618) in view of Pearson (1035230).

The features recited in the amended claims 1 and 19 are not taught or suggested by any of the cited references. In particular, Pearson teaches steel ropes.

Claims 2-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aulanko et al. in view of Pearson, and further in view of Olsen.

Claims 2-6 and 8 are directed to various advantageous features that may be combined with the invention of Claim 1 and are allowable for at least the reasons as cited above with reference to claim 1.

Newly added claims 20-23 are directed to further distinguishing features of Applicants invention and such features are not found in the cited references.

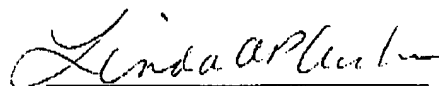
Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1 and 19, previously presented claims 2-6 and 8 and newly added claims 20-23 are patentable over the prior cited art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry and reconsideration of claims 1-6, 8 and 19 and consideration and allowance of claims 20-23.

The Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to expedite any further issues or concerns.

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0750, Order No. OT-4328.

Respectfully submitted,

Adams et al.



Linda A. P. Cunha
Registration No. 45,767

Otis Elevator Company
Ten Farm Springs
Farmington, CT 06032
(860) 676-5760